



LARC



Volume 60, Number 11

ACADIANA AMATEUR RADIO ASSOC., INC. - a 501(c)3 Corporation November 2020

2020 – A Year To Remember

Personal thoughts by Joseph “Moe” Meaux K2JDM – LARC Editor

2020 will definitely be a year to remember for millions of people. A worldwide pandemic that has affected millions of lives. Politicians blaming everybody else for a variety of things that no one could have foreseen. A hurricane season that has been unheard of. Vast changes in the way we communicate and interact with our own families and with others. And a solar minimum to boot.

November 30th is the end of our hurricane season. 2020 has taught lots of people parts of the Greek alphabet. It started with Arthur as the first named storm and went all the way to Wilfred. Then more storms brewed up in the Atlantic. And the U.S. National Hurricane Center had to go to the Greeks. So far we have had only 6 Greek names used.

Southwest Louisiana ended up hit twice this year. Hurricanes Laura and Delta did some serious damage over there within a few weeks of each other. People who were just getting started on rebuilding after Laura had to evacuate again and watched all their hard work disappear.

Through all the fury of the storms, several Hams kept providing weather information as they could. The Skywarn volunteers kept the National Weather Service updated throughout the storms. These people need to be commended for they efforts.

AARL and the NWS setup a day to recognize these people back in 1999. The next Skywarn Recognition Day will be on December 5, 2020. See this [calendar](#).

Businesses and public facilities all over the nation have been shutdown as a precautionary measure to slow the spread of the virus. Some municipalities have shut down previously planned events and will continue this into 2021. But people need to plan for the future.

I want to recognize **Danny Daigle** KD5JSM for procuring the AARA the use of the SEOT Building at 1300 Bertrand Drive here in Lafayette, LA next to Borden's facility. My deepest thanks go to him for allowing us a place we could meet in person. Even with the required masks, we recognized each other.

I would like to ask everyone at AARA to please bare with me. 2020 has been a bad year for my family, not in terms of death, but in terms of illnesses. I am caring for an Alzheimer patient, my cousin, and things haven't been to well. Her illness puts her in danger on so many levels. And I'm trying to do my best out of love. Thank you all.

November 5, 2020
1300 Bertrand Drive Lafayette, LA

VE Testing TBD w5ddl.org

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By the

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P. O. Box 51174

Lafayette, LA 70505-1174

DATES TO REMEMBER**GENERAL MEETING**

November 5, 2020 @ 7:00 PM

Meeting will be Over The Air

Lafayette, LA

<http://www.w5ddl.org/clubsite/>

Local 2-Meter Nets**Monday**

AARA Monday Night Net 7:00 PM

147.040 PL 103.5 +0.600 Lafayette, LA

Tuesday

Region 4 SkyWarn Net 7:00 PM

145.370 - PL 103.5 Lafayette, LA

Wednesday

Silent Key Memorial Net 6:30 PM

146.820 PL 103.5 New Iberia, LA

AARA OFFICERS 2019 - 2020

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October 2020**VE Test Session
October 2020**

*Nothing was heard about VE Testing
this month.*

*If you are someone you know wants to
be tested, contact Greg Dolan at this
[e-mail address](#).*



73, de Greg ~ K5LFT

SKYWARN Recognition Day 2020 - Making Adjustments for COVID-19

Since 1999, the annual SKYWARN™ Recognition Day celebrates the long relationship between the amateur community and the National Weather Service program. The purpose of the event is to recognize amateurs for the vital public service they perform during times of severe weather and to strengthen the bond between radio amateurs and their local National Weather Service office. The event is co-sponsored by the ARRL and the National Weather Service.

Normally each year, radio amateurs participate from home stations and from stations at National Weather Service (NWS) forecast offices with the goal of making contact with as many offices as possible. However, this year, due to COVID-19 restrictions, participation from NWS forecast offices will be minimal at best. The focus will shift to contacting as many SKYWARN trained spotters as possible during the event.

Radio amateurs who wish to participate may sign up for a SKYWARN Recognition Day number by completing the form found on the SRD 2020 website. During the event, operators are encouraged to exchange their name, QTH, SRD number, and current weather conditions with other participating stations. See the event website for the full operating guidelines.

SKYWARN Recognition Day 2020 will be held from 0000 UTC to 2400 UTC December 5.



The poster for The Greater New Orleans Ham Fest features a blue background with a white border. On the left is the Crescent City Amateur Radio Group logo, which is a circular emblem with 'CRESCENT CITY AMATEUR RADIO GROUP' and 'NOLA 1916-2006' around a central 'HAM' symbol. To the right of the logo is the text 'The Greater New Orleans Ham Fest' in large white serif font. Further right is a map of Louisiana with a swan on it. Below the logo is the call sign 'W5CCG' and the text 'Sponsored by Crescent City Amateur Radio Group, Inc.'. In the center, the date and time 'November 14, 2020 - 8AM to 1PM' are written in large blue font, followed by 'VFW Hall' in red and '1133 Hickory Ave. Harahan, LA. 70123' in black. On the right is a diamond-shaped logo with 'ARRL' and a swan. A red banner at the bottom reads 'FREE Tables - FREE Tailgating - FREE Parking'. Below this is a white box with 'We will Raffle off over 25 Radios and other items!' and a blue box with 'VE Exam Session Starts at 08:30 - ARRL, ARES & DMR FORUMS'.

The Greater New Orleans Ham Fest

November 14, 2020 - 8AM to 1PM

VFW Hall

1133 Hickory Ave. Harahan, LA. 70123

FREE Tables - FREE Tailgating - FREE Parking

We will Raffle off over **25** Radios and other items!

VE Exam Session Starts at 08:30 - ARRL, ARES & DMR FORUMS

FREE TABLES ARE AVAILABLE FREE TABLES ARE AVAILABLE

Ham Fest Still ON....The Final decision to have the Ham Fest will on October 15, 2020.

The Crescent City Amateur Radio Group is monitoring the corona virus situation. numbers.. As of today October 1, 2020 we are still on. We can space tables 6 feet apart if need be (in our new venue) If you would like to reserve a table email:

Steve at n5wxc@hotmail.com or Joe Glorioso 504-288-7084 Joen5ozg@hotmail.com

Or Eric at af5jg@outlook.com

ARRL Learning Network

Got some spare time and not knowing what to do. Take yourself a break and learn something. The ARRL Learning Network provides you with several webinars to watch and expand your knowledge of the field of Amateur Radio. Go and see what there is at the website for the [ARRL Learning Network](#). Upcoming is “How to Get Started in Amateur Radio Contesting” with Anthony Luscre, K8ZT on Tuesday, November 3, 2020 at 1 PM EST (1800 UTC).

ARRL Member Chuck Butzin, K0BBQ, used ham radio on September 26 to assist a motorist in need.

From ARRL Newsletter, Oct. 1, 2020

Butzin came upon a vehicle that went off the roadway. Fortunately, no one was injured, but a tow truck was needed to get the vehicle back on the highway. Butzin was beyond cell phone coverage, so he used the Terry Peak repeater to make a priority call on the SDLINK repeater system for assistance. On the other end of the state, Matt Holden, K0BBC, heard the call and relayed location details via 911. Dispatcher Denny Warrick, W0DGW, used the GPS coordinates that Butzin provided to pin down the incident location and call in the closest law enforcement agency. The Pennington County Sheriff sent a patrol car and summoned a tow truck. Pennington County ARES Emergency Coordinator Bob Ewing, W0RE, monitored the repeater until law enforcement arrived, and K0BBQ cleared the scene. SDLINK is a series of 12 repeaters that connect South Dakota radio amateurs along Interstates 29 and 90. Holden advises radio amateurs to keep an ear on your local repeaters. "They may be quiet, but you never know when a call for assistance from a fellow amateur radio operator might be heard." -- Thanks to Matt Holden, K0BBC

It's a Wrap for Hurricane Watch Net, ARES Teams Stand Down

From ARRL Newsletter of 10/29/2020

After an activation that lasted more than 9 hours, the Hurricane Watch Net (HWN) suspended operations on October 28 at around 0130 UTC.

“Although Zeta was still a hurricane just east of Hattiesburg, Mississippi, moving to the northeast at about 30 MPH, we hated to close operations, but propagation on 20 and 40 meters was totally gone,” HWN Manager Bobby Graves, KB5HAV, said. “The turnout of reporting stations was great, but we can always use more. Meteorologists love weather data. So, we do our best to collect and forward as much as we can.”

ARES teams in Louisiana went on standby status on October 27, ready to activate at the request of local emergency management officials or served agencies. At midday on Wednesday, the Louisiana Emergency Net was placed on active standby status on 3.878 and 7.255 MHz, concluding operations at 2100 UTC on Wednesday.

The Northern Florida ARES Net convened October 28 on 3.950 MHz for about 12 hours in anticipation of tropical storm winds and a risk of tornado activity. “Our HF net shut down this morning,” Northern Florida Section Emergency Coordinator Karl Martin, K4HBN, said. “The counties closed shelters and had their ARES groups stand down soon after.” Martin said operators did cover three shelters. “We had challenges due to HF conditions, and one of the ARES groups lost a repeater and had to go to a back-up plan.”

In George County, Mississippi, ARES Emergency Coordinator General Dailey, KD4VVZ, suspended routine net traffic to take storm-related reports such as weather data, property damage, and power status. Daily said repeater net would remain active for 12 hours, and the information would be relayed to weather forecasters. The net prepared to carry occasional digital traffic.

WX4NHC at the National Hurricane Center (NHC) in Miami activated at 1600 UTC on October 28, monitoring HWN's frequencies of 14.325 and 7.268 MHz as well as the VoIP Hurricane Net

ARRL Urges Members to Join in Strongly Opposing FCC's Application Fees Proposal

ARRL will file comments in firm opposition to an FCC proposal to impose a \$50 fee on amateur radio license and application fees. With the November 16 comment deadline fast approaching, ARRL urges members to add their voices to ARRL's by filing opposition comments of their own. The FCC Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) MD Docket 20-270 appeared in the October 15 edition of The Federal Register and sets deadlines of November 16 to comment and November 30 to post reply comments, which are comments on comments already filed. ARRL has prepared a [Guide to Filing Comments with the FCC](#) which includes tips for preparing comments and step-by-step filing instructions. File comments on MD Docket 20-270 using the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS).

Under the proposal, amateur radio licensees would pay a \$50 fee for each amateur radio application for new licenses, license renewals, upgrades to existing licenses, and vanity call sign requests. The FCC also has proposed a \$50 fee to obtain a printed copy of a license. Excluded are applications for administrative updates, such as changes of address, and annual regulatory fees. Amateur Service licensees have been exempt from application fees for several years.

The FCC proposal is contained in a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) in MD Docket 20-270, which was adopted to implement portions of the "Repack Airwaves Yielding Better Access for Users of Modern Services Act" of 2018 — the so-called "[Ray Baum's Act](#)." The Act requires that the FCC switch from a Congressionally-mandated fee structure to a cost-based system of assessment. In its NPRM, the FCC proposed application fees for a broad range of services that use the FCC's Universal Licensing System (ULS), including the Amateur Radio Service. The 2018 statute excludes the Amateur Service from annual regulatory fees, but not from application fees. The FCC proposal affects all FCC services and does not single out amateur radio.

ARRL is encouraging members to file comments that stress amateur radio's contributions to the country and communities. ARRL's [Guide to Filing Comments](#) includes "talking points" that may be helpful in preparing comments. These stress amateur radio's role in volunteering communication support during disasters and emergencies, and inspiring students to pursue education and careers in engineering, radio technology, and communications.

As the FCC explained in its NPRM, Congress, through the Ray Baum's Act, is compelling regulatory agencies such as the FCC to recover from applicants the costs involved in filing and handling applications.

In its NPRM the FCC encouraged licensees to update their own information online without charge. Many, if not most, Amateur Service applications may be handled via the largely automated Universal License Service (ULS). The Ray Baum's Act does not exempt filing fees in the Amateur Radio Service, and the FCC stopped assessing fees for vanity call signs several years ago.

See also "FCC Proposes to Reinstate Amateur Radio Service Fees," reported by ARRL in August, and a summary page of the proceeding at www.arrl.org/FCC-Fees-Proposal.



**Mark Owen Dugal N5TBU of Opelousas, Louisiana
became a Silent Key on Saturday, October 17, 2020.**

Mark began working full time at the age of 16. His jobs included stints as a diesel mechanic, a grain elevator operator, and as a truck driver for Clover Farm Creamery. Eventually, his interests turned to radios and computers. He worked for several communication companies before opening his own, Versatile Communications, which provided professional radio communications equipment, including high and low band, and 700 and 800 radio systems to public safety agencies, public services and farmers throughout Louisiana. If you didn't know what that meant, Mark could have explained it to you. Mark lived and died doing things his own way. He was opinionated, stubborn, adventurous and generous. His drink was Seagram's 7 and Sprite and he smoked cigarettes, as he always said he would, until the day he died. He would give the shirt off of his back to help someone in need. His family, technology, and travel were the most important things in his life. He was an excellent cook, known to spend hours browning the meat of choice into a fine gravy or to whip up an even finer macaroni and cheese. As a licensed ham radio operator and technician,

N5TBU communicated with friends and family located around the country. He had an innate understanding of electronics and was the go-to person for problems ranging from questions regarding the history of a piece of farmland to figuring out that new remote control for your TV. He loved hunting, motorcycles, camping, and fresh bread. He despised crab meat in any form and salads with "strange" ingredients. He liked to be notified to "save room" for dessert if it was going to be made available. Mark was an explorer at heart. He did his best to leave no lonely country road untraveled. He was an avid motorcycle rider who passed many a weekend riding through the old Camp Claiborne. His family has fond memories of camping trips, some of which include flooded tents, and all of which include lots of laughter. He spent hours pouring over internet forums on abandoned rail lines and train depots. He especially enjoyed his yearly motorcycle trips which, more often than not, took him out West. He designed a small trailer to pull vacation essentials behind his bike. Friends and family back home looked forward to photos of beautiful scenery, GPS data, topography maps, and other trip reports including weather conditions and average miles per gallon.

Mark is survived by his parents, Paul and Mary Ann Patout Dugal of Opelousas, his two sisters, Claudia Ann Dugal of Round Rock, Texas and Catherine Lynn Dugal Cahanin, and one brother in law, Lee Cahanin of Opelousas. He has one niece, Aimee Cahanin, her husband Phirun Meach, and three nephews, Charlton Harrison and his wife, Liz, Dimitri Dugal-Hammond, and Eric Cahanin and his wife Mary Trigg. He also has two great nieces, Christa and Stacy Harrison and three great nephews, Brent Harrison, Vaylen Hammond, and James Cahanin. He was preceded in death by his brother James Patrick Dugal, his paternal grandparents, Clifford and Irene Dugal, and maternal grandparents, Oswell and Claudia Bourque Patout, Sr., as well as his dog, Mimi, who set the bar for "good dog" so high that, years later, no other could compete. Mark also had one brother James Dugal N5KNX who is now a Silent Key and was a member of the Acadiana Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

Mark will be sadly missed by his family and friends. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that you simply drive down a lonely back road and enjoy the scenery in Mark's honor. The family plans to hold a Memorial Mass which will be announced at a later date.

<https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/acadiana/obituary.aspx?n=mark-owen-dugal&pid=196977544&fhid=12386>

Local 2-Meter Nets

MONDAY

AARA Monday Night Net 7:00 PM
146.820 PL 103.5 Lafayette, LA

WEDNESDAY

Silent Key Memorial Net 6:30 PM
146.820 PL 103.5 Lafayette, LA

**TUESDAY**

Region 4 Skywarn Net 7:00 PM
145.370 PL 103.5 Lafayette, LA

THURSDAY

On-The-Air General Meeting 7:00
147.040 +0.600 PL 103.50 W6EXI repeater

AARA Monday Night 2 Meter Net

Net Controllers will rotate each week and held on the 146.820 W5DDL Repeater only.

The AARA Monday Night Net and the Silent Key Memorial Net is being held on the 146.820.

The November 2020 schedule can be downloaded and printed in Adobe Acrobat .PDF from the club website. [Net Schedules](#)

REGION 4 SKYWARN NET

Each Tuesday night at 7:00 PM (local), the Region 4 Skywarn Net will take place on the 145.370 Skywarn Repeater in Lafayette, LA. Net Control Operators will alternate each week.

In case the 145.370 repeater fails, the net will be held on the 146.820 W5DDL repeater PL Tone 103.5.

The November 2020 schedule can be found at this link: [Net Schedules](#)

When using the Skywarn 145.370 repeater, be sure to use the receiver PL tone for your area as follows:

NW Quadrant 114.8 - NE Quadrant 127.3 – SW Quadrant 141.3 – SE Quadrant 94.8 – Central 103.5

See our website for additional information: <http://www.w5ddl.org/repeaters.htm>



11-03	KG5YYL	Ken
11-03	K5VSH	Paul
11-16	KG5JHR	David
11-20	KC5UGC	Steven
11-30	K5JMR	John
12-09	NA5Q	Roland
12-11	KG5QKH	Raymond

Some members failed to put their birthdays on their applications for renewal / membership causing names to be missing from the list.

Don't forget to renew your membership by January 31st.

Acadiana Amateur Radio Assoc., Inc.
P. O. Box 51174
Lafayette, LA 70505-1174
Website: <http://www.w5ddl.org>



*Share the Fun ~
Bring a Friend
to be a HAM.*

UPCOMING EVENTS

November General Meeting

**November 5, 2020 7PM @1300 Betrand Dr. Lafayette, LA
S.E.O.T. Building**

For any additional information, check the W5DDL.org website

CHICKEN FRIED STEAK

This is my way of doing it. I buy a Boneless Rump Roast and slice it into 3/8-inch slices. Then trim as much fat off as I can. Then I trim the steaks down to serving size if needed.

I scramble 3 eggs in a bowl, making sure it is large enough for a steak to get coated in. In a flat pan, I add 1 cup of flour (for coating). Season steaks with Salt, Pepper, and NON-MSG Tenderizer. Coat steak with flour both sides. I use a Meat Tenderizer to flatten the steaks to about 1/4-inch thickness.

Add 1/4-inch of cooking oil to frying pan and heat over medium heat.

Dip the steak into the flour again, coating both sides. Then into eggs coating both sides, and again in the flour. Shake off any loose flour, and fry until golden brown. Flip over and brown other side. Drain on paper towels or wire rack over paper towels.

I use a store bought Peppered Creamy Country Gravy mix (Country Gravy) to cover my steaks prior to eating.

Any leftovers are coating in the gravy, wrapped, and refrigerated until later. Breakfast never tasted SO GOOD!!!

FCC Information Service

***Toll Free (WATS) for Amateur
Radio license inquiries about new/
vanity call signs: 1-888-225-5322
This will connect you the FCC Na-
tional Call Center, handled by the
FCC's Consumer Information Bu-
reau. Amateurs having ULS prob-
lems or questions should contact
the FCC's ULS Technical Support
staff at: 202-414-1250 or:***

ulscomm@fcc.gov.

FCC Website:

<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/>

***New call sign information can
also be obtained from the ARRL/
VEC at 860-594-3000.***

<http://www.arrl.org/arrlyec>

***The mailing address to the FCC
is:
Federal Communications Commis-
sion,
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554***